

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 52, 54-56, and 62-63 were previously pending in this application. Claims 62-63 have been withdrawn. Claims 52 and 54-56 remain pending with claim 52 being independent. No new matter has been added.

**Rejection of Claims 52 and 54-56 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)**

Claims 52 and 54-56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,443,890 ("Ohman").

Ohman fails to teach or suggest an article comprising a polymeric component having a surface bonded to a surface of a second component in the absence of auxiliary adhesive thereby defining a liquid-impermeable seal therebetween, as described in claim 52. By contrast, Ohman teaches bonding a first member and a second member together using a fluid sealing material as an auxiliary adhesive (for example, please see col. 2, lines 8-23; col. 2, lines 26-62; col. 4, lines 7-12; and the figures). For example, Fig. 9 of Ohman shows a first component (Fig. 9, #1) comprising a plurality of protrusions bonded to the surface of a second component (Fig. 9, #7) via sealing strips (Fig. 9, #5). The sealing strips are formed by injection of a fluid sealing material into mould cavities (Fig. 6, #6 and #9) of the first component, prior to bonding with the second component.

Because each limitation is not taught or suggested in Ohman, claim 52 is patentable over Ohman for at least this reason. Claims 54-56 depend from claim 52 and, thus, are also patentable over Ohman.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim rejections on this ground is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Timothy J. Oyer, Ph.D.

Registration No.: 36,628

WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.

Federal Reserve Plaza

600 Atlantic Avenue

Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206

(617) 646-8000